MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 MARCH 1983

Israel

Presidential Election -- The Knesset elected MK Hayim Herzog as president of Israel, Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor announced in a statement broadcast live from the Knesset by Jerusalem radio on 22 March. Herzog received 61 votes while government coalition candidate Menahem Elon obtained 57 votes. Prime Minister Menahem Begin described the result as "regrettable" but said Herzog should be congratulated, according to the radio.

Settlements Issue -- The Cabinet decided on 20 March to "civilianize" eight settlement outposts in "Judaea and Samaria," Jerusalem radio reported. The timing of the decision "has no connection" with "feelers" put out by Jordan's King Husayn to join the peace process, according to another radio report citing sources close to the settlement issue. A senior source on the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs stated that the decision will make it possible to prepare people for the new settlements and to plan their financing, the radio added.

Lebanon

Tripartite Negotiations -- Progress was made in discussions on mutual relations, but there is still a large gap between the Lebanese and Israeli positions on security arrangements for southern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio noted in a report on the outcome of the 21 March negotiations in Netanya. The next round of tripartite talks will focus on security arrangements and will be held at Netanya on 25 March, the radio said.

Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil subsequently met with presidential envoy Philip Habib, who conveyed Israel's response to the latest U.S. proposals, Voice of Lebanon radio reported on 22 March. Earlier, Foreign Minister Elie Salim said in a statement broadcast by the radio that the next 2 weeks will be a critical period that will show if Israel is genuinely interested in the points under discussion in the negotiations at Khaldah and Netanya. In remarks broadcast by Beirut radio, Salim said that if the United States is unable to convince Israel within 2 weeks of the credibility of Lebanon's undertaking to preserve security in its territory, Lebanon will suspect that Israel harbors objectives other than those under discussion at the negotiations. Salim also expressed belief that his good relations with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will help the withdrawal of foreign forces.

U.S.-Israeli Military Relations -- Israel has decided to share with the United States information and lessons learned by the IDF in the Lebanon war out of the belief that such information will be of great value and will further strengthen Israeli-U.S. relations, an Israeli Defense Ministry statement transmitted by ITIM announced. According to Jerusalem radio, Israel offered the information unconditionally and as a good-will gesture designed to improve bilateral relations. The information includes data on the capacity of the Soviet T-72 tank and the technology and tactics employed by Israel to destroy Soviet-made SAM's and aircraft, the radio noted. In a separate development Defense Minister Moshe Arens reiterated Israel's proposals for liaison arrangements between the IDF and the U.S. Marines in the Beirut area, according to a Jerusalem radio report on Arens' meeting with Philip Habib and other U.S. officials on 21 March.

Security Situation -- Five Israeli soldiers were wounded when their tank struck a mine in the Al-Biqa' valley, the Voice of Lebanon reported citing an Israeli spokesman. However, Jerusalem radio said the explosion caused no casualties.

Syria

Khaddam on Israeli Settlements -- Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has denied that Israel will swallow up the occupied Arab territories unless the Arabs join peace negotiations soon, asserting that every nail used to build settlements is a nail hammered into the coffin of Israel's long-term security, Damascus radio reported citing Khaddam's remarks to the London OBSERVER.

Koshoyev Visit -- Temirbek Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, arrived in Damascus at the start of a weeklong visit, Damascus radio noted. Koshoyev said the Israeli campaign against Syria's new defense measures is aimed at finding a pretext to carry out a "new aggressive adventure" and to obtain additional military aid from the United States.

Clash Between Police, Iranian Tourists -- A clash occurred at Damascus International Airport between police and approximately 1,000 Iranian tourists who pasted Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's pictures on walls in the airport, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Fighting broke out during which rifle butts were used when the Iranians refused to comply with police orders to stop putting up the posters, the radio added.

PLO Affairs

PLO combat units have been ordered to step up their attacks both in "occupied Palestine" and Lebanon, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir announced in an interview with the JORDAN TIMES. He also made another offer concerning the eight Israeli POW's, saying the PLO is willing to exchange the prisoners for 1,000 Palestinian detainees. Differences between the PLO and Syria should be resolved, he said, and relations among the PLO, Jordan, and Syria should be strengthened.

In a 20 March interview with Budapest television Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf called on the Americans to recognize the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to propose a referendum in which the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza would determine their political future. The PLO would accept the outcome of such a referendum, even if this resulted in a defeat for it, Khalaf affirmed. According to an MTI report on the interview, Khalaf also said "we should like a Palestinian state where we could gather all the Palestinians, but not at the cost of another people."

Egypt

The Chinese ambassador to Cairo affirmed that President Husni Mubarak's 1-4 April visit to the PRC will lead to the consolidation of bilateral relations. Mubarak will hold talks with the chairman of the State Council and meet with other Chinese leaders, Cairo radio reported. The envoy noted that this will be Mubarak's third visit to the PRC but the first by an Egyptian president since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the radio added.

Five Greek Orthodox bishops have been ordered to leave Egypt before 26 March, AFP reported citing informed sources. The sources added that the Greek Consulate filed a protest with Egyptian authorities over the decision, but the protest has not been answered and no explanation has been given for the expulsion order, AFP noted.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Negotiations to try to end the Iran-Iraq conflict will "open soon in Algiers," AFP announced citing the Turkish paper MILI GAZETE. Both Iran and Iraq have agreed on the conference agenda and Iran "is ready to recognize the Iraqi regime, but wants Iraq to pay part of some $50 billion in war damages, the paper added. Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' quoting reliable Arab sources reported that Indian Prime Minister Indira Ghandi will exert personal efforts to try to end the Iran-Iraq dispute.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL ON NONALIGNED SUMMIT RESULTS, GENEVA TALKS

LD191049 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Mar 83

[President Babrak Karmal interview with unidentified newspaper reporter -- date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Esteemed Comrade Babrak Karmal, the seventh conference of the heads of state or government of nonaligned countries, which recently ended in New Delhi, attracted political circles' serious attention. What is your view of the results of this conference's work?

[Answer] The Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference was convened as tension in the international situation increased as a result of imperialism's warmongering policy. The large-scale production of various weapons, particularly nuclear weapons, by members of the aggressive NATO treaty, led by the United States, is dragging the world toward nuclear catastrophe.

The New Delhi conference's resolutions play an important role in international relations under the present circumstances, where imperialism, led by the United States, is trying to give new dimensions to the policy of opposing peace, detente, and international security and the strategy of resisting the forces of peace and socialism.

[Question] Imperialist circles made broad efforts to divert the Nonaligned Movement from its determined objective at the Havana conference and to create discord in the movement. What is your opinion in this respect?

[Answer] The Nonaligned Movement's enemies, particularly the United States, are trying to deface this movement's true nature to separate the movement from its reliable allies, and to utilize discordant inclinations to destroy nonaligned solidarity and to direct the movement to their desire.

There are other facts. For example, on the threshold of the convocation of the New Delhi conference, a large number of U.S. State Department experts, using various cover names, arrived in New Delhi with the purpose of separating the Nonaligned Movement from its objectives and launched broad activities to secure the U.S. policy [word indistinct]. This was obvious interference and an imperialist endeavor against the Nonaligned Movement's [word indistinct].

Before the New Delhi conference, imperialism, led by the United States and in collaboration with all reactionary forces, used all its power to unleash intrigues, conspiracies, provocations, and broad propaganda to use the situation around our country to damage the DRA's nonaligned status, to impose an irrelevant discussion on the conference, and to confront the movement's anti-imperialist stand.

In considering the reality in the DRA, the New Delhi conference managed to overcome discordant inclinations and (?foil) the reactionary and imperialist circles' efforts. Furthermore, during the conference, it was revealed that the general view is (?in accord with) the DRA's principled stand of attempting to resolve the issue through talks and discussions. I want to take this opportunity to emphasize again that there are no problems that cannot be solved by talks.

On the eve of the second round of talks with Pakistani representatives in Geneva, we believe the speedy political solution of events around Afghanistan requires serious preparation for these talks. We have prepared for these talks.

It must be pointed out that the DRA's stand at the Seventh Nonaligned Conference once again noticeably heightened the DRA's international prestige. The best proof of this claim is the failure of the hostile endeavors against the DRA, which had been unleased with broad dimensions.

As the New Delhi conference was taking place, our people witnessed a great event inside our country: In Kabul, capital of the revolutionary, free, and independent Afghanistan, with one voice a large number of the leaders of armed groups who have joined the revolutionary government announced their solidarity with the PDPA and DRA Government. This by itself was a crushing blow to imperialism and its reactionary henchmen who wanted to confront our people's determination by continuing the undeclared war and creating anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet [word indistinct].

PRESIDENT, NFF ADDRESS NATION ON NEW YEAR

Karmal Greeting

LD210500 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Mar 83

[President Babrak Karmal's New Year message to Afghan people -- live or recorded]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Allow me to express my wholehearted congratulations on the occasion of the new year, the ancient festival of Nawruz [New Day] and the festival of farmers, to you workers, farmers, merchants, and intelligentsia; to you men and women working to construct a developed society and to maintain a new and prosperous life for all of our people and the prosperity of our beloved homeland, heroic and revolutionary Afghanistan; to you our heroic Armed Forces personnel; to you noble ulema and clergy and all patriotic allies who with your wise words are encouraging the people to work for and defend the revolution.

This year, the traditional day of farmers and the beginning of the new year is celebrated in continuation of the praiseworthy tradition of our free people and in appreciation of the work of the toiling peasants of our country. Furthermore, in the wake of the 11th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, this occasion should be seized by the peasants and toilers of our country as an opportunity to effectively familiarize themselves with the measures of the revolutionary party and government for the improvement of living conditions and their work, and to renew their promise to increase production on all land.

The changes brought about during the past year clearly indicate that the new year will be one of new victories for all our people. During the past year, fatal blows were inflicted on the counterrevolutionaries. They were inflicted in the military sphere by the brave Armed Forces and people. In the political arena, we also witnessed the attraction of workers, especially the peasants, to the objectives of the revolution and to the party and government. Our peasants and other workers are realizing the truth of the revolution, are becoming aware of the sinister and antinational intentions of the enemies of the revolution, and are joining the DRA.

The PDPA and the DRA Government warmly welcome this popular inclination and in the near year will strive to further attract the masses of the people to the revolution.

During the past year, despite the treacherous efforts of the counterrevolution, the level of agricultural production in the country increased and the labor of our workers brought fruitful results. The achievements in the spring sowing campaign indicate that agricultural production will further increase this year and that our farmers are determined to make it a bountiful year. The government envisages the provision of extensive facilities and equipment to help the toiling farmers of the country, including agricultural machinery, fertilizers, insecticides, and necessary financial and material facilities.

The beginning of the new year coincides with the sixth spring of the revolution. This new spring is the messenger of a new season in the life of Afghan society and the prosperous future of our people. At a time when the invigorating spring atmosphere is coming to our country, unfortunately clouds of tension still darken mankind's outlook for peace and tranquillity. The efforts of imperialist warmongers to prepare for a nuclear catastrophe are heading toward a new high level. World-devouring imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism and its allies, are sparing nothing in trying to burn up mankind. They are expanding their scope of aggression. This year the United States will try to complete the siting of Pershing missiles in Europe and to strengthen its aggression forces with a new central command, which will cover a major part of our continent. The spring breeze will never soften the hearts of these people. Therefore, in the light of this increased preparedness of the evil war forces, the struggle of the world peace movement should also achieve new heights in the new year.

The struggle of all progressive and democratic forces for peace and a socialist society -- a struggle headed by the Soviet Union in its role of firm guarantor for the continuation of the existence of mankind -- will halt the [words indistinct] of those evil forces, which seek the destruction of civilization.

The masses of the world in this new year are praying for peace and are looking for new horizons of peace and security in the world. Peace is an indivisible phenomenon. An island of prosperity cannot be created in one part of our planet in isolation from the hardships and disasters of other parts. In the new year, we ought to strive for the creation of objective conditions for detente and universal peace; we should welcome the new year with the slogan of peace for all mankind.

Realization of complete disarmament, stopping the production of nuclear armaments, mutual reduction of nuclear weapons through negotiations, creation of nuclear-free zones, dismantling of military aggression bases, and gradual elimination of the arsenals of mass destruction are the objective conditions of a real and reliable peace. We hope that the consistent efforts of the peace camp will at least partially fulfill these great hopes of mankind in the new year and create a new [word indistinct] for mankind, which fears another disastrous world war.

The DRA will spare no effort in all international forums and with all the possibilities at its disposal to realize this great aim -- the aim of peace -- and as an integral part of progressive and peace-loving mankind will remain concerned with this vital need of all the occupants of our planet.

The DRA, contrary to the allegations of imperialist circles, has not been a cause of increased tension in the region and the world. On the contrary, it has been an important factor for the strengthening of world peace and security in the region. By announcing our specific and constructive proposals, we have fulfilled our duty in the search for a solution to the problems around Afghanistan. Our efforts to solve these problems through discussions also will continue in the new year.

Dear compatriots, let's begin the new year in the hope of national peace, reconciliation, brotherhood, and equality; true world peace, the victory of the revolutionary struggle and work of all our compatriots for the creation of a new, independent, and prosperous society; and the victory of the peace and progress camp for the peace and tranquillity of mankind.

We welcome the new spring with new thoughts, fresh energy, and expanded horizons of work and struggle for the realization of the humane objectives of our revolution and with the unity of all national and democratic classes and stratas.

In conclusion, I greet all the people of the world, all Muslim people and our Pashtun and Baluch brothers on this new year and wish them peace, freedom, and progress.

NFF Message

LD220200 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Mar 83

[National Fatherland Front's New Year message]

[Text] Dear compatriots, brothers and sisters: The National Fatherland Front [NFF] of the DRA -- this great political and social organization and focus of all democratic and revolutionary forces of the country which has organized in its ranks workers, peasants, traders, tribes, various nationalities, and followers of the various religions living in our country, revolutionary and democratic Afghanistan, for the construction of a new, free, and democratic society -- wholeheartedly greets all noble, toiling, and Muslim compatriots on the new year and wishes health, happiness, peace, and success to them and further prosperity and progress for our beloved country under the leadership of the PDPA.

Dear sisters and brothers, during the past year, the NFF of the DRA gained considerable achievements in the fulfillment of its important and humane duties with the help and support of the toiling masses of the country and by strict observation of the general and current policies of the PDPA.

More than 100,000 of our toiling compatriots have joined the ranks of this national and sacred front through various social organizations affiliated with it and are sincerely working in a sacred struggle for the construction of a prosperous society.

The creation of 400 councils of the front at the level of provinces, major districts, districts, subdistricts, and villages [words indistinct]; the implementation of the lofty objectives embodied in the action program of the party; the propagation and popularization of the general and current policies of the party and of the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Government; work for the [word indistinct] of the country's defensive power; the attraction of forces in the direction of the realization [words indistinct]; the consolidation of the economic, social, and cultural structure of the country; extensive work to maintain security and stop the bloodshed, war, and fratricide which are fanned by the dark evil forces with the direct support of international warmongers, headed by the U.S. imperialism; and the holding of marches and meetings for defending and supporting world peace and for the consolidation of international security are examples of the victories achieved by the NFF over the past year.

The achievement of the above-mentioned victories and other victories in various aspects of the life of our society under the leadership of the PDPA under conditions of the continuation of the revolutionary process in our country has provoked the anger of reactionary and imperialist circles, which, after the victory of the revolution, and especially after the victorious uprising of 27 December, forever lost their hold on our country but began intervening in the peaceful lives of the toiling people of the country by supporting the antiprogressive forces. These victories also indicate that the counterrevolution and its international protectors have no place inside our country.

The evil counterrevolutionary forces directly attached to international criminals, headed by U.S. imperialism, every day shed the blood of the best sons of our homeland -- workers, peasants, innocent children, noble and patriotic clergymen -- destroy public installations and set fire to sacred places, mosques, and takya khanas [Shi'ite religious centers].

They also create great propaganda, (?hue, and cries) together with accusations, lies, and fabrications against the DRA; make extensive efforts to fan the problems around Afghanistan; train and arm rebel bands in military camps on Pakistani territory and send them to Afghanistan to create unrest; and use the most modern weapons, including chemical weapons, against the toiling and defenseless people of our country. They are organized by war-loving international forces, headed by U.S. imperialism. The material and moral support given to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries constitute interventionist action in the internal affairs of a free and independent country.

However, the fact is that all plots and conspiracies of antiprogressive forces in our country are doomed to defeat. They will never be able to implement their antihumane policies in our country in the way they did against the militant and Muslim people of Lebanon and Palestine. The policies of force and intimidation carried out by the United States to gain world superiority face shameful defeat in our country.

The toiling and free people of revolutionary Afghanistan, under the leadership of the PDPA, will proceed firmly, victoriously, with pride, and without deviation along the path they have chosen and will in the end create a prosperous Afghanistan.

All progressive and peace-loving mankind, especially the brother country and historic friend of the Afghan people, the USSR, stands beside the people of Afghanistan.

Noble compatriots, at this time when the people of our country are celebrating the arrival of spring and the new year, the NFF calls on all those deceived sisters and brothers who have left the country or have taken up arms against their people, as a result of the propaganda of the enemies of the homeland, faith, people, and revolution, to return to their country and voluntarily lay down their arms and together with their compatriots participate in a just and righteous struggle for the construction of an independent and prosperous Afghanistan.

The NFF asks all noble and conscientious compatriots to further strengthen their ranks around this national and sacred front and to struggle to maintain peace in the country, the region, and the world; to resolutely and relentlessly defend the April Revolution and its gains against the plots of international imperialism, Chinese hegemonism, and the reaction of the region, and to attain progress and prosperity in the country under the leadership of the PDPA.

The NFF hopes that, in line with the resolution of the 11th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, all social organizations and especially peasant cooperatives and all farmers will actively take part in developing the country's economy and especially in increasing agricultural production and the prosperity of the country.

Long live revolutionary, free, and independent Afghanistan!

Long live the NFF of the DRA!

BRIEFS

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH GDR -- Kabul, March 20, BAKHTAR -- A scientific and cultural cooperation agreement was concluded between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and German Democratic Republic here today. Under this two year agreement cultural delegations, artistic groups, scholars, lecturers and students will be exchanged between the two countries. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 22 Mar 83 LD]

PAPER SAYS GANDHI TO MEDIATE IRAQ-IRAN WAR

GF211234 Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Mar (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today quoted Arab sources, it described as reliable, as saying that Indira Gandhi, India's prime minister, will exert personal efforts in the next phase to end the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

The sources added that Gandhi has requested that the style of her moves between the Iraqi and Iranian sides be decided by her. Also, the sources expected that no announcement of the results of these preliminary contacts would be made should Gandhi's efforts prove fruitless.

PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER CRITICIZES AKALI DAL

BK201700 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Darbara Singh, has criticized the Akali Dal and the Shiramani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee [SGPC] for violating the sanctity of the Golden Temple. Addressing a public meeting at Kartarpur, he said the Akalis kept the body of an extremist killed in an encounter with the police on Wednesday in the SGPC complex. The meeting was organized to promote communal harmony and national integration.

GOVERNMENT TO INVITE AKALI LEADERS FOR TALKS

BK211623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] The center will again invite Akali leaders for tripartite talks on Punjab. This was announced by the home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, in the Lok Sabha today. He also made it clear that if Akali leaders do not respond to the invitation, the government will announce its decision on the issues in the light of opinions expressed at earlier tripartite talks and by other states.

Mr Sethi was replying to a calling attention motion moved by Mrs Gita Mukherjee, Communist Party of India, and others. It related to desecration of religious places and harboring criminals and undesirable elements in places of worship.

Members from both sides expressed concern over such incidents. The home minister assured them that the Punjab Government will be asked to deal with the matter firmly. Reiterating that gurdwaras are sacred not only to Sikhs but to other communities as well, he said the government will again approach religious leaders to maintain the sanctity of religious places.

SIKH 'EXTREMISTS' KILLED IN PUNJAB SHOOTOUT

BK221017 Hong Kong AFP in English 1014 GMT 22 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi, March 22 (AFP) -- Sikh extremists and other unknown assailants shot dead one person and wounded over half a dozen others in shoot-outs last night in three different areas of the troubled northeastern of Punjab [as received], rocked by continuing unrest by Sikh militants campaigning for autonomy, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today.

Another person drowned while trying to escape, PTI said in a dispatch from Chandigarh, Punjab's joint capital with neighbouring Haryana, quoting official information reaching there. No arrests have been reported so far.

One person was killed and his son seriously injured when a five-strong group of Sikhs fired at them at Mothawala in Kapurthala District. The victims were said to be members of the Sikh sect, "Nirankaris."

PTI said six people were injured, some seriously, when a group of Sikhs fired indiscriminately in a market area at Quadian. One of the assailant's group reportedly drowned in a pond while trying to escape.

The latest incidents of violence took place less than one week after the armed clash between a jeep-borne Sikh group and a police party near Amritsar, Punjab's holy Sikh city, last Wednesday. It also followed the state police's decision to take immediate steps to collect guns and other arms from followers of militant Sikh religious leader Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale as a result of the Amritsar clash.

In the third incident, at Harshowl village, a "pujari" (temple priest) was seriously injured when he was fired upon by some unidentified assailants, the agency said.

AFP SAYS STRIKE PARALYZING NORMAL LIFE IN ASSAM

BK220948 Hong Kong AFP in English 0802 GMT 22 Mar 83

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, March 22 (AFP) -- The day-long strike in India's northeastern state of Assam, which paralysed normal life till dawn today confirmed that the Assamese natives were in no mood to compromise over the immigrants question, several independent observers said today.

Life was totally disrupted throughout the Brahmaputra River valley yesterday by the strike called in protest at the inaugural sitting of the new assembly yesterday.

The state capital Gauhati, where the budget session of the newly elected state assembly began yesterday, resembled a city under siege, residents and journalists interviewed over phone said today. There were several bomb explosions in the state, but no serious casualties were reported.

Meanwhile, the death toll in the week-end clashes in Tezpur rose to 32 today with recovery of more bodies and two of the 50 injured succumbing to their wounds in the hospitals.

The All Assam Students Union (AASU), which is leading the four-year-old protest, called the strike in protest at the sitting of the assembly which will run through April 5. The movement leaders say they do not recognise the assembly as it was elected by foreigners -- the name the native Assamese had given to immigrants.

All India newspapers today said the strike was total in all but two districts where immigrants were in majority.

"In other areas, specially in the Brahmaputra valley, the strike completely paralysed life. In Gauhati not a single vehicle other than those of the Army and the senior government official, was seen," a resident said.

In the state assembly, Governor Prakash Mehrotra, announced a series of measures to bring peace back to the strategic state which borders with Burma and Bangladesh. He called for a negotiated settlement of the Assamese demand for detection and deportation of an estimated five million immigrants and admitted the recent violent incidents "had created a feeling of bitterness, suspicion and insecurity, particularly among religious, linguistic and ethnic minorities.

"We will give top priority to maintain law and order, relief and rehabilitation," he said.

Over 3,000 people were killed and about 300,000 made homeless in last month's violence. Mr. Mehrotra said the Federal Indian Government would soon start a dialogue with the Assam movement leaders to find a mutually acceptable solution.

However, movement sources said there was no possibility of a dialogue until the assembly was dissolved and detection of immigrants who crossed the international boundary after 1960 started.

Mrs. Gandhi has agreed to make 1971 as the cut off year, but her offer was rejected by the movement leaders.

Mr. Mehrotra also spoke of reorganization of the state police force, but did not elaborate. The state now has 160,000 police, para-military and regular Indian troops keeping order.

MINISTER REPORTS ON BENGALEES SENT HOME

BK220616 Hong Kong AFP in English 1050 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi, March 17 (AFP) -- Junior Home Minister Nihar Rahjan Laskar told parliament today that 56,896 Bangladeshis had been sent back to their homeland from the eastern Indian states of Assam, Tripura and West Bengal from January 1, 1980 to December 31, 1982.

In a written reply in the upper house, Mr Laskar said they comprised 4,826 from Assam, 24,346 from Tripura and 27,724 from West Bengal.

Data on Bangladeshis sent back from Bihar and Meghalaya would be given to the house later, he added.

Assamese militants have long been campaigning for the deportation of immigrants from Bangladesh and Nepal. Bloody communal violence flared up in Assam last month as indigenous Assamese strongly opposed the inscription of immigrants on electoral rolls for state assembly elections.

VAJPAYEE REELECTED BHARATIYA JANATA PRESIDENT

BK191800 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee has been reelected president of the Bharatiya Janata Party. This was announced by the party's returning officer for this election in New Delhi today. This is Mr Vajpayee's second 2-year term as party president. It may be recalled that Mr Vajpayee's resignation from the post after his party's debacle in the Delhi civic election was not accepted.

PRESS NOTE ISSUED ON SITUATION IN KARACHI

BK211727 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] A press note issued in Karachi tonight says the situation in the city remained normal throughout the day except one incident of attempted arson. In the incident, a house was partially damaged. However, the fire was quickly extinguished. The press note says seven persons were arrested. One more person was arrested for pasting objectionable posters. Eight persons amongst those arrested on Saturday last, whose names appeared on the press note of the same day, were produced before the summary military court today. In view of the improving law and order situation, curfew in the affected area will be further relaxed tomorrow from 0700 to 1000 and 1600 to 1900.

No Incidents Reported, Curfew Relaxed

BK221022 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 22 Mar 83

[Text] The curfew restrictions in the Liaqatabad police station area in Karachi were relaxed for 3 hours this morning. No untoward incident was reported during the period. Curfew will again be relaxed between 4 and 7 this evening.

SOVIET MINISTER ATTENDS STEEL MILL INAUGURATION

GF211716 Karachi DAWN in English 18 Mar 83 p 1

[Excerpt] The federal finance minister, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, yesterday formally inaugurated the steel making complex and billet mill at Pakistan Steel, Bin Qasim.

With the completion of the steel making complex, Pakistan had found a strong base as well as a new strategy for its sixth five-year plan.

This auspicious day, in addition to an expression of genuine joy, also demands that we find such new paths as would lead us rapidly towards economic progress, he said.

On behalf of the Government and the people of Pakistan, he offered to the people and the Soviet Government the "most sincere and cordial thanks and felicitations" for their assistance. "The smoke coming out from the chimneys of this steel mill points to the direction of new horizons of mutual and common endeavours," he said.

He took the occasion to emphasize that the completion of this steel mill would add greater depth and dimension to the joint efforts towards economic cooperation between Pakistan and the USSR.

The inaugural function held under a big shamiana with a backdrop of imposing units of the steel complex, was attended by a high powered Soviet delegation, led by Mr. B.V. Bakin, minister for maintenance and special constructions works of the Government of USSR, the Soviet ambassador in Pakistan, the speaker of Majlis-e-Shoora, federal and provincial ministers, members of Majlis-e-Shoora, and high officials.

The Soviet minister, Mr. B.V. Bakin, said that the accomplishment of the steel making complex is a remarkable event in the Soviet-Pakistani economic cooperation.

Mr. Bakin, who has specially come to attend the inauguration of the steel making complex and billet mill at the head of a high-powered Soviet delegation, said that with the commissioning of these units, Pakistan has for the first time acquired the capability of producing in the country over 1.0 million tons of steel and 275,000 tons of billets annually.

Stating that the external economic relations of the Soviet Union are built on the basis of full equality of the sides, respect for one's sovereignty, non-interference in the internal affairs and mutual benefit, the Soviet minister said that they regard the Soviet-Pakistani economic and technical cooperation as one of the vivid examples of the realistic embodiment of these principles into life. This cooperation has been in existence for more than 20 years and got a history of its own. On our part, we are ready to continue the work on promotion of these relations.

He expressed confidence that the relations between the two countries would develop for the benefit of the people of our countries, in the interests of peace and friendship between all the countries and people.

Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan said that the mutual cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union is based on strong and abiding principles. The basis of the relationship is bilateral economic benefit. The two countries fully believed that durable relationship is established on the sovereign equality of the two countries and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. By adhering to these fundamentals, we are seeking new paths of cooperation with our great neighbour the Soviet Union.

Talks to Newsmen, Departs 21 Mar

BK211250 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Pakistan and the Soviet Union have agreed to further expand cooperation between them. This was stated by the Soviet minister for maintenance and special construction work, B.V. Bakin, while talking to newsmen at Islamabad Airport his morning before his departure for Karachi on his way back home. He said during his visit Pakistan had proposed a number of projects and the Soviet Union had shown its agreement to these suggestions. However, these projects will be discussed in Moscow soon when the Pakistan delegation would visit the Soviet Union. He said the two sides have agreed on the arrangements to complete the hotstrip and cold rolling mills of the Pakistan Steel within the shortest time. This is one of the major objectives of the two sides.

The Soviet minister was seen off at the airport by Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

NEW NAVAL CHIEF OF STAFF ASSUMES OFFICE 21 MARCH

BK211252 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Vice Admiral Tariq Kamal Khan took over as the new chief of naval staff at a ceremony held at PNS [Pakistan naval staff] in Islamabad this morning. Speaking on the occasion, the new chief of naval staff said that the Navy had come a long way but had much further to go. Their responsibilities at sea have increased manyfold. He pledged to the government and officers and men of the Navy to take on their responsibilities with zest and dedication.

In his speech the outgoing chief of naval staff, Admiral Keramat Rahman Niazi, said he was proud to have commanded gallant and dedicated officers and sailors. He said the Navy had grown from a handful of officers and sailors into a cohesive force of surface and subsurface competence supported by maritime aircraft.

PAPER EXAMINES 'PRICE' OF RELATIONS WITH INDIA

GF211738 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 18 Mar 83 p 3

[Editorial from the International Edition: "Price of Friendly Relations With India"]

[Excerpts] President Ziaul Haq has explained that Pakistan will not endeavor to improve relations with India at the expense of its friendship with other countries, because the fundamental aspect of Pakistan's foreign policy is to establish better and friendly relations with Iran, PRC, India, and Afghanistan. He was speaking to correspondents at Karachi Airport when asked whether the normalizing of relations with India will mean leaning more toward South Asia instead of the Gulf.

Better relations with India are a necessity at a time when increase in expenses for defense means that the country has to pay a price by retarding the country's progress and the nation's welfare and prosperity which in itself is an adverse phenomenon. However, the nature and history of Pakistan's relations with India have been such that we cannot remain oblivious to the need for a stronger defense. The intensity with which the Indian rulers are obsessed about national supremacy has direct repercussions on the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Pakistan. Therefore, before establishment of such relations, we should consider whether India is willing to set up friendly relations with Pakistan on the basis of equal respect for each other's sovereignty.

This aspect of relations with India requires the serious and realistic consideration by the government, and the nation should be taken into confidence as well.

It is true that India has signed a declaration with Pakistan, but it was on an Indian proposal. Although we had proposed a nonaggression pact, for the sake of better relations and to show our seriousness, we gave the Indian proposal priority. What the opposition said and why it said what it did is in itself unfortunate, but our valid and innocuous demand for a just solution to the Kashmir dispute was greeted by an official communique by the Indian Government which left much to be desired in its tone and content when it asked Pakistan to keep its hands off Azad Kashmir. This indicates that whether we desire it or not, India is preparing to extort a price from Pakistan.

To mention the presence of a lobby in favor of friendship with Pakistan is premature at the moment and based on rosy ideas, because if such a lobby did exist, the brutal massacre of Muslims in Assam would not have taken place.

SRI LANKA

JAYEWARDENE COMMENTS ON NONALIGNED SUMMIT RESULTS

BK1711411 Hong Kong AFP in English 0733 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Colombo, March 17 (AFP) -- President Junius Jayewardene has expressed confidence that Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, new chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, will strengthen nonalignment during her term.

Mr Jayewardene told the state-owned television Rupavahini last night that he thought Mrs. Gandhi was attempting to keep the movement on "a correct and level course."

He returned Monday from last week's nonaligned summit in New Delhi.

Commenting on whether there had been a change in approach since the Havana summit in 1979, the president said: "I would not say a change in approach but a change in emphasis on certain matters. I think the conference, one could say, was more fair and more nonaligned than previously," he added.

Asked if the separation of the Diego Garcia question from the general question of the Indian Ocean peace zone was a diplomatic victory for Sri Lanka, President Jayewardene said he did not consider it a success for any one country. The summit toned down a request to oust the U.S. from its military base on the Indian Ocean island while it retained consideration of the issue of overall demilitarization of the Indian Ocean. Sri Lanka aided by Pakistan, Singapore and Nepal had supported detaching the Diego Garcia question from the demilitarization issue.

President Jayewardene said the detachment will help the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations-sponsored international conference on the Indian Ocean in Colombo next year to get off the ground.

"It is now a U.N. matter and both the United States and the USSR have to come. If only one country is mentioned they may not come."

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,255

LD211753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Communique No 1,255 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We greet and congratulate our compatriots and most sincerely greet the pure souls of all the martyrs of the Islamic Revolution and the imposed war and we hope for the final victory of the fighters of Islam in the war between truth and falsehood. We hereby inform our dear compatriots of the developments on the warfront.

During the past 24 hours, the self-sacrificing forces of Islam defended the positions under their protection on the southern fronts and carefully controlled movements and operations by the mercenaries of Saddam. Our fighters opened defensive fire on Iraqi armored, artillery, and infantry units, silencing their fire and inflicting considerable losses and casualties. Our patrol groups and antitank squads carried out their missions, which are to destroy the blasphemous forces of Saddam.

During the exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the fighters of Islam, consisting of the heroic forces of the Gendarmerie and the Navy, destroyed four machinegun positions and one mortar launching pad and killed or wounded a number of their personnel. In the area of the Navy's operations, more than six enemy personnel were killed.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued yesterday on the western fronts. The exchanges of fire were more intense on the Mehran front. The fighters of Islam destroyed two Iraqi trucks and a number of their light and heavy weapons bunkers on these fronts. On the Marivan front Iraqi positions in Khormal, Suliabad, and elsewhere came under the artillery fire of the fighters of Islam, as the result of which a number of Iraqi personnel were killed and some of their fortifications and positions were destroyed.

Yesterday afternoon the criminal forces of Saddam brought parts of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin under their artillery fire, destroying three residential homes and damaging installations in the two towns.

During the past 24 hours, the Air Force's tactical operations and the antiaircraft units' fire repulsed all the Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries' aerial aggression against western and southern border towns.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY HIDEOUT DESTROYED

LD212039 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] According to the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters -- joint operations center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran -- in the last days of 1361 [year ending 20 March 1983], on the threshold of the new year, by seeking the assistance of God, the victorious combatants of Islam launched a coordinated operation and dealt another fatal blow to the counterrevolutionaries affiliated to world blasphemy by surrounding and destroying the main hideout of the defunct Kurdish Democratic Party in the village of Mohammadshah and the nearby heights, situated in the Mahabad-(?Kasreh)-Naqadeh triangle.

During this victorious operation, which was carried out with the sincere cooperation of the people and Muslim Kurdish peshmergas, at least 40 counterrevolutionaries were killed and 12 were captured. Also, considerable quantities of arms and equipment, including four vehicles, several medium caliber and individual weapons, large quantities of ammunition, and interorganizational documents that revealed these agents' connections to the East and the West were captured.

The unprecedented welcome the Muslim Kurdish people gave to the combatants of Islam during the operation promises the total annihilation of the pagans in the Kurdish parts of the western section of the country.

'MASSACRES' AMONG KURDISH POPULATION REPORTED

AU211106 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 19-20 Mar 83 p 2

[Special DIE PRESSE report by "GB"]

[Text] Vienna -- In the part of Iran populated by Kurds, bloody massacres among the civilian population are said to have occurred in the past few weeks. This was reported by Hasan Qazi, member of the European committee of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran (KDPI), in a talk with DIE PRESSE. According to Qazi, the latest massacre was committed by Khomeyni's revolutionary guards on 10 March in the Naqadeh region. On this occasion, 39 people, including many children, are said to have been murdered. Earlier, the central government ordered bombing raids on and artillery shelling of Kurdish villages.

"This is a new government tactic. Since they had to put up with so many losses, they have been trying for several months to spread fear and terror among the population." The whole thing amounts to a large-scale "dislocation program" by which the Kurdish fighters are to be "neutralized." According to Qazi, the revolution guards were accompanied during their bloody attacks by Kurdish collaborators, especially followers of the legendary Kurdish leader Barzani.

MINISTER OF STATE RETURNS FROM GDR 20 MARCH

LD200956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] Mr Banki, Iran's minister of state in charge of plan and budget organizations, who headed a high-ranking economic and industrial delegation to the GDR to hold talks with that country's officials and to visit the Leipzig technical exhibition, returned to Tehran this morning.

He held talks with GDR ministers of planning, foreign trade, electrical and electfonic industries, and chemical industries on bilateral technical and economic cooperation.

During these meetings, they studied the service and training required for the machine tools purchased from the GDR, which will arrive soon in Iran and will be allocated to Iran's industrial and production units through the Heavy Industries Ministry.

Detailed talks also were held on cooperation between the GDR's Ministry of Electrical and Electronic Industries and the Industry Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran for transfer of technology and fabrication of the electrical and electronic parts and equipment needed in the first 5-year plan of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

PRESIDENT URGES DEPRIVED TO FIGHT OPPRESSORS

LD201013 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] Tehran, March 19 (IRNA) -- President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran said today that all adversities of billions of deprived people of the world, who are somehow being oppressed by oppressors, and the imbalance of power in the world are caused by domination of the superpowers and tyrants of the world.

Addressing a group of martyrs' families and members of the basij (mobilization) of Tehran, Khamene'i added that the only way for these deprived people to change such a situation and prevent the world powers from destroying interests of their nations is fighting against them. This struggle, he said, will be victorious.

Praising the great martyrs of Islam and the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the president said that the nation is sacrificing themselves [as received] to preserve Islam and their Islamic dignity. And, he added, in so doing they are in constant struggle with attempts by the superpowers to dominate the deprived of the world. He also said that the Iranian nation is among the rare victors who have achieved success in their struggles against the big powers of the world.

Noting that all global policies which are today directed at pressuring the Islamic Republic of Iran, will fail, Khamene'i said that Iran is quite able to resist all plots and hostile acts by the U.S. and other enemies.

Referring to the effort of the Iraqi regime which contrives to show Iran has started the war as of the beginning, Khamene'i said that despite all Iraqi regime's publicity all the world have realized that it was the Baghdad regime which begun the aggression and they have themselves confessed to this fact. [sentence as received]

President Khamene'i further added that in a country like Iraq where people are Muslim but its regime has not benefitted from the Islamic religion and morality, then the only alternative left for the Iraqi nation is to fight against this regime.

TEHRAN COMMENTARY DEPLORES ECONOMIC 'PLOTS'

LD191148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Multifarious plots by global arrogance are besetting our developing, revolutionary society. With the aim of destroying the revolution and overthrowing the newly founded Islamic republican system, the demons, on the one hand, have engineered the war imposed by the Zionist-Ba'thist regime, while on the other, began an economic blockade and a cowardly propaganda onslaught against our rising Islamic nation.

In such sensitive circumstances in the tumultuous history of our Islamic homeland, it is the religious duty and humanitarian task of every Muslim to love his faith, culture, land and soil, and this dictates that to defend his ideology, liberty, and independence he should stand up to the destructive onslaught of imperialism and Zionism.

Today, the Islamic Revolution is waging battle against the world devourers from numerous and various redoubts -- a battle which will indubitably leave its mark on the destiny of the meek and oppressed on earth. One of the fronts on which imperialism has pinned great hopes for decisive victory, imagining that it will thereby be able to knock down the Islamic Revolution, is the economic battlefront.

Realizing the level of our country's economic system's dependence on the capitalist system of the Western world -- one of the sinister achievements of the 2,500-year-old regime of imperial oppression -- and relying on the profiteering, plundering domestic capitalists and elements, the United States has opened up that front and has pinned great hopes on it.

The plundering profiteers, who are today traversing the path of the archsatan by hoarding what the people need and consequently by creating a black market and an artificial shortage of goods, are often knowingly stepping along the path in pursuit of the filthy goals of imperialism in our country. To confront such anti-Islamic and counterrevolutionary steps, responsible officials in charge of the economy of the Islamic Republic should decisively concentrate their efforts on waging a serious and comprehensive struggle against them without heeding the climates of opinion they create and the poison they spread. And here the units of our dedicated, resisting Islamic nation, too, by preventing extravagance and waste in consumption and by refraining from nonessential purchases and hoarding goods and commodities, can play an effective role in frustrating imperialism's economic plots.

MONTAZERI MEETS AIRBORNE DIVISION, YAZD OFFICIALS

LD181250 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] The commander of the Airborne Division and his deputies, the governor general of Yazd, and the governors and district officers of Yazd Province met and had talks with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday.

The Central News Unit reports that during the meeting, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, extolling and expressing appreciation for the dedicated selflessness of the Airborne Divison and its role in defending the sanctity of the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran, graciously stated: The gentlemen doubtlessly are aware of the tremendous tasks they are undertaking. Today, all Islam's enemies find their interests jeopardized and are doing their utmost to destroy us. It is quite natural that under these circumstances our revolution is beset with difficulties in all areas. Let the gentlemen carry out their tasks with pure motives and in the service of God. We all know that in the Islamic Republic in return for executing their responsibilities those responsible forthe affairs of the nation neither receive big salaries nor enjoy spurious positions of leadership. These responsibilities, as commanded by the Holy Imam 'Ali, may peace be upon him, entail nothing but a heavy burden and divine tasks. Therefore, God forbid if the tasks in hand are not carried out to God's satisfaction. The people would, indeed, be deceived. Of course, if the gentlemen have some genuine observations, they should speak sensibly and through lawful channels and the responsible officials, too, should listen to their remarks.

According to the same report, the mayor of Tehran and Iran's ambassador and charges d'affaires in Sweden, Gabon, the YAR, Czechoslovakia, Zimbabwe, and Madagascar yesterday met and had talks with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. During the meeting, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri gave them certain guidelines in connection with their responsibilities and the people's expectations of them.

ESFAHAN GOVERNOR GENERAL RECEIVES ARMENIANS

GF171330 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Dr (Kolian Patrian), leader of the Armenians of Esfahan's Jolfa District and of southern Iran, along with the head, secretary, and members representing Jolfa's Armenians, met with Mr Karbaschi, governor general of Esfahan.

In this meeting, the archbishop of the Armenians of Esfahan's Jolfa District and of southern Iran, while wishing Mr Karbaschi success in the performance of his important duties as governor general of Esfahan, referred to his recent trip to Lebanon. He said: A number of people there have noticed that the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly the United States, the Zionists, and the Soviet Union, poison public opinion against Iran. It was incumbent upon me that I should inform the people there of the real aims of the Islamic Republic. According to our belief, the imam is not only the leader of the oppressed of Iran, he is also a leader of the oppressed of the world.

The archbishop of the Armenians of Esfahan's Jolfa District and of southern Iran, in referring to the scattering of Armenians in 54 regions of the world, said: The real aim of the Armenians of the world is the same as the anti-East and West Islamic Republic as well as revealing the crimes of the imperialists. Armenians are best at providing propaganda in the world for achieving their rights and those of the Islamic Republic.

Mr Karbaschi, governor general of Esfahan, while welcoming the religious leader of the Armenians of Esfahan's Jolfa District and of southern Iran, said: God willing, we will be able to live a good life in the company of each other and serve the religious minorities, especially the Christians. He added that we continue in our solidarity with religious minorities in contrast to what is customary in the world. In some countries, although outwardly they express their faith with each other, inwardly they act quite against it. Unity and oneness have been proved in the Islamic Republic and we believe that at the time of the reappearance of the hidden Mahdi, God bless him and all his scion, our lord of the ages will offer his prayers with Jesus Christ. This reality is accepted in Islam. Religious minorities have equal rights with Muslims and I hope that this unity in the Islamic world will continue without any plots.

DETAILS OF TABATABA'I OPIUM, ARMS DEALS PUBLISHED

WA221400 West Berlin DIE TAGESZEITUNG in German 2 Mar 83 p 4

[Text] Saddeq Tabataba'i, former deputy prime minister of Iran and accused of possessing 1.7 kg of smoking opium, committed a blunder on the day he made a statement about his role in the Iranian arms deals abroad. However, Khomeyni's commissioner for arms procurement was, on instructions of the Iranian Government, supposed to personally sign every financial transaction in arms procurement, together with the delegate of the Iranian Ministry of Defense and the deputy chief of the Revolution Guards, Mohsen Rafiqdust.

This is reported by a former coworker of ousted President Bani-Sadr, now living in London. For the purpose of the tank deal with the Swiss firm Sati AG, mentioned in the copy of the letter included here, the Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Tabataba'i, and Rafiqdust had coopted an Iranian army Major Vahid Nia, mentioned in the letter. He was supposed to examine the mostly European types of weapons offered by the Sati firm for suitability for use by the Iranian Army.

In another case, a Swiss businessman, Walter Gnaedinger, also ran onto Tabataba'i when looking for Iranian arms buyers. He had heard about 50 American M-14 battle tanks which were reportedly for sale. Zurich businessman Roland Huber, known for his connections in the Near East, arranged the contact.

In the Swiss newspaper, BLICK, issue of 28 April 1982, Huber stated: "I put out feelers to Germany and reached a reserve major in the West German Army; he made the contact with Saddeq Tabataba'i, a former Iranian deputy minister of the interior, for whose security the said major used to be responsible."

Tabataba'i, the German major, and Huber quietly made an agreement in a luxury hotel in Zurich. The sale price was to be deposited in a bank in Duesseldorf.

Last summer, this tank deal missed only a hair of bringing Tabataba'i into court since he had illegally negotiated arms purchases in German territory. A trial was blocked since the Foreign Ministry believed that arresting or expelling Tabataba'i would "strain anew the complicated relations between Bonn and Tehran," as the FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU reported.

There are still more instances of dropping investigations of offenses by Khomeyni supporters in German territory, such as the extensively organized attacks on opposition Iranians in the student dormitories in Mainz, the background of which was never legally clarified. No less than the role of the Iranian Embassy in Bonn in the uproar in Mainz, Tabataba'i's part in the arms negotiations with the German major was shelved. Since the Foreign Ministry had blocked the first trial of Tabataba'i, it naturally encouraged him in his illegal machinations because then as Khomeyni's representative he could continue organizing arms procurement for the Gulf war in quiet confidence from his office in Duesseldorf.

The lines between the Foreign Ministries in Tehran and Bonn and between the West German chancellory and Tabataba'i were kept busy further this week after the Duesseldorf Provincial Court requested a clarification from the West German Government.

According to reports from opposition Iranians in London, Tabataba'i has possibly been thrown in the soup by his compatriots. Accordingly, Tabataba'i's domestic opponents who knew that he carried narcotics in his luggage -- not only because of the well known combination of narcotics and arms deals but also because Tabataba'i himself likes to smoke the opium pipe-- have tried to blow the whistle on Khomeyni's protege to both governments. Sources in London claim that the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam has sent an encoded telex message instructing Iranian diplomatic representatives in West Europe to inform the police that Tabataba'i carries opium with him. This telex reportedly reached Europe 2 hours before Tabataba'i's flight from Zurich to Duesseldorf.

Foreign Ministry Letter

Letterhead: Iranian emblem (meaning "There is no god but Allah")
Islamic Republic of Iran
Foreign Ministry
Classification: "Top Secret", 17 May 1982
To: Iranian Embassy in Bonn, West Germany, Brother Navab, ambassador (No. 1423)
Subject: Department SHMD, Saddeq Tabataba'i

Instructions: Two sums of 50 million DM for Project "F" and 16 million DM for Project "K" are to be paid to the "S.AG" firm in Zug, Switzerland (Sati AG). The total is to be paid in three installments to an account in the Swiss Loan Institute (SKA, Zurich). Confirmation of the payments has been received in Iran. This money is to be transferred to a special account of "Credit Lichtenstein" (owned by Sati AG). The account number is 338811 6584923/110. In the text, this account is encoded: Double 3, twice double 4, a third of 33 - 6584923, 'Imam 'Ali' (that means according to an old Iranian usage - 110). The sum to be disbursed is not to appear in the quarterly budget of the embassy (that is, it is to be a nonembassy transaction). The transfer can be legally executed only with the signatures of Tabataba'i and Vahid Nia.

"S" (Sati AG) is to handle the transaction directly. The transfer has been approved by the Defense Council and the Foreign Ministry according to regulations.

Transmitted by the Iranian Telecommunications Office
Notation: M.H. Secret Ref No 765678154K - N1654K
Sent by Saddeqi

AFGHAN, IRAQI REPRESENTATION IN NONALIGNED SCORED

LD121015 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A few days before the Nonaligned Conference was convened, the Afghan Muslim mujahidin and the Iraqi Islamic Revolution Supreme Council called on members of the Nonaligned Movement to prevent the participation of delegations from the usurping and subservient regimes of those two opposed countries and, instead, to invite into the conference the genuine representatives of the peoples of those two countries. But, apparently, this request was consigned to oblivion and received no response, thanks to pressures brought by the Western and Eastern regimes attending that conference. This took place at a time when members of the Nonaligned Movement, particularly those who consider themselves 100 percent loyal to the movement's goals and the guardians of its basic principles, should know that sooner or later, whether they want it or not, they will be compelled to reply to that request.

The truth is that neither of the two regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq is the true representative of its people and their participation in the Nonaligned Conference is the result of negligence, shortcoming, or treachery perpetrated against these two oppressed nations.

The wide movement by the Muslim Afghan people against Kabul's Russian regime and also the deep support given by Iraqi Muslims, whether in Iran or in Iraq, to the Iraqi Islamic Revolution Supreme Council are indicative of the fact that the seats in the conference should have been given to people other than those already occupying them. Attendance by such oppressive, subservient regimes as those of Saddam, Karmal, Mubarak, and the Jordanian Husayn is, in effect, tantamount to an act of discourtesy to oppressed nations which for years have been tortured in the shackles of these U.S. hirelings.

However, we believe that if the genuinely nonaligned regimes were to take steps toward realizing the rights of these oppressed nations, they would be both fulfilling their mission and duty and reducing the the lack of confidence of those nations in the Nonaligned Movement and the possibility of its disintegration. For most certainly, those in Afghanistan and Iraq, who will take power in their respective countries, will never have any confidence in a conference which has accepted such hangmen regimes as those of Saddam and Karmal.